

January 31, 2013

Mr. John Hammond  
Acting County Executive  
The Arundel Center  
Annapolis, Maryland

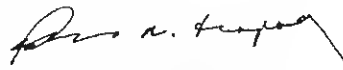
Dear Mr. Hammond:

After much thought and deliberation, it is with great sadness and personal regret that I advise you of my decision to resign from the Office of County Executive, effective February 1, 2013. This decision is the most difficult decision I have ever made, but I know that it is the right one in the best interest of the citizens of Anne Arundel County.

I was first elected to public office 45 years ago and have dedicated my life to public service. It has been a privilege to represent the citizens of Anne Arundel County for 26 years, both in the General Assembly and as County Executive. I believe I have made a positive difference in the lives of County residents.

It was a compelling and humbling experience for me to sit through two weeks of the trial and listen intently to the words expressed by the Court. I acknowledge the serious errors in judgment that I made and do not want these errors in judgment to further distract the County from its ability to move forward in a positive way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John R. Leopold", with a stylized flourish at the end.

JOHN R. LEOPOLD